

# Toc H Journal

*Letters and articles are welcomed and are printed as individual points of view, and are not necessarily those of the Movement*

## Principal Contents — September 1954

	Page	
	VIGIL 236	by Barclay Baron
FAREWELL TO PRIVATE PETTIFER	237	by P. B. Clayton
	'GEN' 239	by Tubby
HIGH TIDE at CHATSWORTH	242	by Colin Campbell
REDISCOVERING TOC H—8	244	by Mayne Elson
BANNERS—IV. LLANDUDNO	247	by Fred Kay
	MULTUM in PARVO 248	much in little
	INCOME from AREAS 249	an interim report
FAR CRY, OVERSEAS NEWS	250	by F. W. Hilborne, Sir Harry Batterbee, Geoff. Martin and W. R. Elliot
The ELDER BRETHREN	254	Roll of Honour
	HOLIDAY CAMP 255	by A. Keith Goldsworthy
	PEARLS of PRICE 257	by Canon T. P. Stevens
	SERVICE in SONG 260	by J. Neilly
FESTIVAL at HEREFORD	262	by A. Eric Tims
MIDDLESBROUGH GUEST-NIGHT	263	by Jim Brass
	The LAST TRIBUTE 265	by Jack Harrison
	BRANCH BRIEFS 267	from all quarters
	A BAG of BOOKS 269	reviews and comment
	OPEN HUSTINGS 271	Readers' Letters

### Cover Picture :

*The Rev. F. W. Hilborne, D.C.G., greeted on arrival at Lagos by local members.*

*(See article on page 250)*

*Editorial Office: Toc H, 47 Francis St., London, S.W.1*

*Telephone: VICTORIA 0354*

# Vigil

VIGIL is a word we do not commonly use: it stands for something that we do not often practice. It means more than simply 'keeping watch' or 'mounting guard', for that is over when the watchman goes off duty or the sentry is relieved. A vigil looks *forward*, it is a deliberate preparation for something which is to come; it implies thought and prayer before action. And so the word conjures up the picture of something solemn, perhaps rather difficult. The first meaning of vigil in the dictionary is "eve of a festival, especially if marked by fasting", and that is how his vigil must have looked to the young knight in the ages of chivalry. All night alone, without food, he was required to kneel in his shirt before an altar, preparing his mind and will for the great festival of his initiation in the morning, the putting on of his armour—each piece with a special significance, like St. Paul's "whole armour of God". Then he would be no longer a boy but a man, no more an apprentice but a responsible officer, bound by his knightly vows for a life of action and honour.

Do not let us be misled by the story-book romance of knights in flashing armour. After all they were men like ourselves, living in an age of violence and cruelty, widespread poverty and many injustices—an age, in short, equalled by our own. They did not always keep their knightly vows to serve God and men: many of them may have found it easier (as we often do) to leave God out of account and to despoil their neighbours instead of protecting them. But let us believe that sometimes at least they remembered their vigil in after years as a special time, testing and essential, and measured their actions now against the solemn thoughts of that long night.

Ever since Toc H Australia, twenty-five years ago, inaugurated the World Chain of Light one feature of this Family festival (for such it is) has been a twenty-four hour Vigil by the Branch which has been given the honour of lighting its Lamp at 9 p.m. to start the Chain. Since the Birthdays of Talbot House on December 11 and of its

Founder Padre on December 12 fall this year upon a week-end all Branches have been invited to take part in the Vigil. As their members, men or women, take their turn in watching beside the lighted Lamp they may try to picture fellow-members in some other part of the world who are just lighting a Lamp as the hands of *their* watches reach the hour of nine.

Those who keep Vigil this year are called to remember before God not only their fellow-members but the common task which claims us in Toc H throughout the world. The times are difficult and dangerous everywhere, the future hidden in much darkness. Our Movement has its part to play today and also tomorrow, according to the measure of its faith in the cause of God's Kingdom. This night and day of Vigil, an unaccustomed exercise, will give us opportunity to revalue our heritage of Toc H, to see more plainly its weak points and its strength, to renew our own vows, to submit ourselves and our Family more consciously to the Will of God. The Vigil is not a time for dreaming; it is a preparation for more lively action. The watchword is 'Forward!'

BARCLAY BARON.

## *Farewell to Private Pettifer*

*Here the Founder Padre writes a tribute to forty years' friendship with ARTHUR PETTIFER, the Senior Vice-President of Toc H, who joined the Elder Brethren on June 16.*

WHEN PETTIFER WENT HOME, his coffin came into All Hallows for a few blessed hours. While a Buffs Private does not lie in state, people flocked in and out to pay their tribute, preceded in the very early morning by unexpected friends from Billingsgate. The office cleaner world came next, I think, soon followed by the junior office staffs. Police looked in who were not on duty; men from the River, and some transport workers.

But what was most significant of all was the arrival of a marshalled body of Corporation Dustmen and Street Cleaners, all spick and span, and some with their war ribbons. London is old, but I do not imagine that any citizen ere this



ARTHUR PETTIFER, M.M.

event has had a tribute paid to him by these men, whose dreary task it is to clean the streets. Unless this humble task is well performed, London would lose its pride and its prestige, and soon become a most unhealthy place. Yet their existence is not recognised, except by men who know their London well. Pettifer had apparently made friends with those night-workers, who clean our gutters and our pavements in all weathers. I knew this was the case, but did not realise their gratitude. Six of them actually took up their stand around the coffin by a common instinct and stood there to

attention as proud mourners. When the Buffs Drummer sounded the *Last Post* and the *Reveille*, these six men saluted in accordance with the training they had received in the three Services. Those who were closely watching them could easily distinguish Army and Navy and Air Force. It was a tribute paid to their best friend. Year after year in many kinds of weather Gen passed the time of day or cracked a joke. It was no formal action on his part, and it assured them that he understood.

Gen's ashes are secure. His two fine sons stand by his grand old lady, and the small house at Tottenham has become glad to be honoured by a picture frame which holds a special message which arrived from the Queen Mother. The Toc H Branch at Tottenham is well known for its good work and its God-fearing ways. Pettifer went there frequently, and stayed on his last evening with what must have been a secret strain upon his shattered health. He stayed as though he could not come away. He seemed to sense that this was his last visit. His ashes rest within the Undercroft beneath the new High Altar of All Hallows. Hence they survey the casket which contains all that remains on earth of Neville Talbot, the friend whose love for Gen held in all weathers.

P.B.C.

## 'Gen'

"THE WORLD KNOWS NOTHING of its greatest men". Gen was not great in any normal sense. He was reserved; in the Victorian phrase, he 'knew his place'. They would have made him sergeant, but he preferred to wear good conduct stripes—no less than six of these ran to his elbow. I think that the Centurion in Scripture had much in common with this veteran Buff. Orders were orders in his strong conviction. He had a mind which did not hesitate. His wit, his wisdom, his sincerity, his joyful spirit and his silent faith, made him God-fearing at the back of things, with a façade of Cockney merriment.

That he was war-wise, that he had an instinct which brought him and his less experienced charge through inter-

mittent, unexpected, shelling, became a legend in our scattered parish. I owed my life to him time and again. On one occasion we had been spotted by a German battery which was short of targets, and thus two exceedingly contrasted figures (since Gen weighed seven-stone-six in Flanders days) became the object of their close attention, and I proposed a too-convenient shell hole. Gen very quickly took entire command, with the result that he made up his mind that we must wait for a new shell hole to be made for us; and made it was, where he had prophesied. Trusting his judgement thus became my code. Since we were out together, week by week, for more than three years, trudging side by side, tutor and pupil understood each other. Once he went back to get a small clay pipe along a road which he forbade to me, since we had had too much of it already; but he had dropped the pipe, it must be found. Treating a steady shelling of this road, which still continued, as a form of sport, he made his way by tactical advances, repairing from one shell hole to the next, until he reached his miniature objective. He now was forced to turn his back to shelling, a process which he utterly detested. He seemed to have a stop-watch in his brain, so that he travelled as the gun re-loaded, looked for the flash and seemed to know beforehand where to anticipate the loud arrival. He lit his clay with very deep content before he left the scene, to my relief.

### Homely Wisdom

Gen had a sentimental side to him, but cheerfulness with him was second nature. His conversational abilities remain unique in my experience. A multitude of friends gathered his homely wisdom to their hearts and took advice from him on wives or weather. His early rising served him in good stead, so that he was indeed for many years one of the few who found that workmen's trains were like a mid-day train to West-End people. Breakfast was never an anxiety; but midday dinner was a sacred session, and he was not above an honest drink. Reading a book was rare in his old age. He preferred his thoughts and recollections, with Mrs. Gen's encouraging encores to stories which she also knew by heart. Reports of conversations he had shared demanded a supply of inverted commas and present tenses, which befitted a Cockney proud of Old Ford, his mother's life-

long home; she died at ninety-six before the war. Proud also of his fifty years in Tottenham, he and his wife had seen its vanished farms.

When I began to write these thoughts tonight I found it hard, and feared reviving grief; but thinking of him thus has calmed my spirit. It also gives me an appropriate chance of saying 'thank-you' to five hundred friends whose chivalry has flowed into their prayers, whose comfort has here stabilised our hearts.

### Blessings Bestowed

Gen's supreme magic was the way in which he walked among us all from start to finish, suiting his conversation to all ranks. He had a knack of saying the right thing. He was indeed a quite unconscious expert in his approach to men of all conditions; and not with men alone! An office staff, a typists' pool, all cooks and catering teams, found in his friendship courage, patience, wisdom; homely, direct, and laughing at himself, he went upon his way bestowing blessings. Poor, he made many rich. His secret gifts of coins, recovered from surprising sources, bought a dry-throated stranger mugs of tea together with a 'wad', or a thick sandwich.

One of the most outstanding miracles was when I handed over to his care a derelict, or rather second-hand aged assistant to a car park keeper. He was a new arrival on Tower Hill, and when I tried to welcome him by gestures (for he had been stone deaf for many years) he treated my approaches with distrust, assuring me he was an atheist. He stated this in tones of such conviction that I retired defeated and abashed. Here was a man and a parishioner, for whose salvation I was responsible, incapable of being argued with at all. "I don't believe not in no God whatever. No. I don't hold with no God and no Church."

As usual I then fell back on the Gen. The Gen assured me he would see to it. Some three weeks later Gen remarked to me. "You know, Sir, that there deaf chap what minds cars, acting lance-corporal to a car park keeper, I have been telling him a lot of late, and anyways we had some tea and what-nots. He's changed right round, Sir, and he's keen today. He wants to join Toc H and be Confirmed." At this stage I protested in shocked earnest. "Gen, are we talking

of the same man? How did you make him hear? What did you say?" Gen then had the audacity to answer in terms which live with me while life shall last. "He's Church of England now, Sir, all 'O.K.' You see, Sir, he was born a Holy Roller, but I explained the difference to him."

Need I say more, my Lords and Gentlemen, concerning Private Arthur Pettifer, who was indeed your first Vice-President.

TUBBY.

## *High Tide at Chatsworth*

WHEN Her Grace the Duchess of Devonshire came to present the prizes for the Pit Pony Competition, it was her second visit to the Toc H Fête and Gala in Chatsworth Park. Accompanied by the Duke she had opened the proceedings and watched the first act before going home to change into dry clothes. Such was the spirit of Chatsworth.

Alfreton Branch were justly proud of the bridge they built across the Derwent. It stood up to all the flood water that hammered at it and might well be the symbol of Chatsworth; for many bridges were built on one of the wettest Whit Mondays ever known there. Lament the financial effect of the rains if you will but remember with pride a superbly organised show, richly endowed with goodwill, made possible by wonderful co-operation from all sides.

How gallantly the artists carried on—the Bob Kion team on a wet high wire, giving far more than their contract, responding to a true Toc H welcome, the country dancers ever ready to perform on a soaking stage, the players only beaten by the rush of the audience for shelter beneath their canvas, the lads from H.M.S. *Gamecock* splashing through ankle deep mud and water knowing they had to clean up their finery for a ceremonial parade two days later. And in the second arena the motor cyclists, performing stunts that probably surprised themselves, and, of course, the ponies. Only the Band was beaten completely—it couldn't blow bubbles!



As for the crowds—well, as Tubby said, it was wonderful of them to come at all. Despite almost continuous rain from Saturday night, by eleven o'clock on Whit Monday morning cars and coaches, buses and trains, folk were rolling up in their hundreds to face a downpour with three hours to go before the show began.



CHATSWORTH FÊTE: *The Duchess of Devonshire presenting awards to winners in the Pit Pony contests*

Of the host of helpers that worked so hard for success, none deserve more praise than the Chatsworth Estate folk themselves and that gallant band of Scouts and Rovers who lived under canvas—and water—for three nights, and produced most savoury bacon and eggs each morning for the rest of the campers, besides working like trojans throughout. Toc H has friends, indeed, and on this showing, some pretty good members, too.

What if the weather had been fine? Almost certainly there would have been the 40,000 attendance aimed at, a memorable day and a handsome contribution to the Family Purse. As it was, there was hardly a grumble heard anywhere, a great deal of admiration and sympathy and, for those who had put so much into it, almost a sense of joy at having participated in a magnificent wash-out! COLIN CAMPBELL.

# Rediscovering Toc H

## 8 — *The Family receives Guests*

**Y**EARS AGO, I heard our Founder Padre utter a memorable pronouncement. Speaking with great emphasis in what he calls his St. Paul's Cathedral voice, Tubby said: "No Toc H meeting is properly constituted unless there is at least one perfect stranger present". I don't suppose he meant this to be taken literally, but it's worth recalling that at an early meeting of Cheltenham Branch, the first to be established in the provinces, which took the customary form of a simple supper, someone asked why they could not bring along the following week some of the war-blinded soldiers from the hospital nearby, and that this forthwith became a regular practice. Every meeting of that Branch thereafter was a Guest-night and was no doubt planned accordingly. They even had a "Guestmaster", the forerunner of all Branch Pilots. Today, of course, we still often invite men to come to Branch meetings; but generally the programme is planned for members only. If we could make more of a habit of preparing for newcomers and of regarding them as the most important people present, we might do more towards the spreading of Toc H than we do now. So although what follows applies mainly to the District Guest-night, the Birthday celebration or other special occasion, let us not forget Tubby's saying altogether.

### **Important Decisions**

The essentials of a good Guest-night are careful planning and loyal team-work, but before beginning to settle the innumerable details which will arise, at least two important general decisions must be made. What is to be the main object of the Guest-night and who are to be the guests? If the occasion is to celebrate a Birthday or to provide the occasion for a Lamp Bestowal, or even if it isn't, it has become the general custom to invite women (whether members of Toc H or not) as a very suitable recognition of the constant help they give us. (One might go a step further and make it a joint men's and women's Guest-night, inviting the

women's help in planning it right from the start, if they would welcome that). It is also the general custom to invite the members of neighbouring Branches. But although both they and the women may be there in the capacity of guests, the Guest-night will be a shocking waste of opportunity if every Branch member doesn't bring at least one man who is a newcomer to Toc H. This is the very first thing to think about and work for. Written or printed invitations are useless by themselves—I said *bring!* Moreover, I believe in asking men only from time to time as one great means of getting much-needed new blood into our Branches. Seeing that we are not at present (whatever the future may hold) a mixed Movement, to have an almost unbroken succession of mixed Guest-nights seems rather strange.

### Painting a Picture

In *The Bridge Builders*, the supplement to the Toc H JOURNAL for September, 1937, there are some splendid descriptions of the kind of thing to aim at. Guest-nights were Guest-nights in those days—that is to say, they were held for the express purpose of painting a picture of the Movement in the hope of challenging newcomers with the way of life for which we stand. That is what every Guest-night ought to do, whatever the excuse for holding it. Sometimes we try to sketch out rather roughly a general picture; on other occasions we may seek to depict in more detail some particular aspect. What we do not always realise is that every single thing which is said or done during the evening is part of the picture in the eyes of the guests. Our part consists of everything which takes place except the speaker's talk (I'm assuming that there is a speaker: there usually is, but even that need not be taken for granted) and each item—and the way it is presented—will tell the guests something about Toc H. If there is any of the 'lighter side' it ought to be something which reflects our own love of music or drama, or merely our own high spirits. Normally we shun as we would the plague anything in the way of 'business' or any reference to the service done by members. I wonder why. A short, carefully arranged 'Jobbie's Innings', for instance, might tell the guests much and help them to relate what the speaker says to the local situation. It's no good just making a frame and leaving all the painting to some brilliant Toc H orator. It is possible for him to create a masterpiece, only

for this to be completely ruined by the remainder of the programme.

To change the metaphor, Toc H has to be 'produced' on these occasions, in which sense the entire evening is a single piece of drama; and the best type of Guest-night Leader is a competent producer of plays, one who is skilled in the means of getting ideas and situations across the footlights to the audience, a man with a keen sense of the appropriate and of the dramatic. He will begin his work by going over in his mind every minute from assembly to dispersal, foreseeing the effect of this and that happening on those in the body of the hall, anticipating the pitfalls and mistakes which might spoil the effect at which he aims. The Branch Chairman *may* have these qualities. They can be acquired, and anyway some other member could be Leader for the occasion.

### **Essence of Hospitality**

To change the metaphor again, a Guest-night has much in common with a family party. When we go to a friend's home, we should think it very odd if we were allowed to drift into the house without a word of welcome at the door, or if we were confined to straight rows of chairs so that we had no chance of indulging in general sociability, or still more if we were invited when leaving to make a contribution towards the expense. Yet I have often seen these things happen to the guests of Toc H. We need to get back much nearer to the idea of a family receiving a company which includes both friends and strangers. On such an occasion the hosts will make use of all sorts of devices to mix people up and create a friendly atmosphere; and usually they will have planned an evening's activities which they can carry out themselves without relying on talent from outside. The essence of hospitality is to be yourself, to study the comfort and enjoyment of your guests and to share freely with them the best that you have, whether your resources are limited or large. There is no reason why we in Toc H should be ashamed of entertaining our guests personally, just because we haven't a Gigli or a Menuhin or a Danny Kaye amongst us. An evening which starts with all the chairs stacked in the corners of the hall, so that party games may be played for a time in the middle, can arrive at a wonderful atmosphere by the time the chairs are brought out and the speaker is called on to do his part.

Vital as the planning is, it will go for nothing without the second essential. There must be loyal team-work also. Every member of the Branch must play the host. Each man must know what his part is and do just that and not other people's parts. Careful timing is important too; and as there can be no 'dress rehearsal' it is wise not to overfill the programme.

Lastly, the job isn't finished when the party is over, for we want our guests to come again. Time was when the 'follow-up'—the extra personal approach a few days later with a renewed invitation—was carried out as a matter of course. It is right that we should not invite men too casually to assume the responsibilities of membership, but nowadays we are perhaps over-reluctant to pursue them boldly. Too much of a take-it-or-leave-it attitude ill becomes followers of Him who called His disciples to be "Fishers of Men".

MAYNE ELSON.

## *Branch Banners — IV Llandudno*



An eagle, the county emblem, is portrayed by this lovely banner while its centre panel bears a representation of St. Tudno's Church on the Great Orme, with the sea forming a background.

Tudno was the son of Seithenin Frenin, King of the plain of Gwyddno which the sea overwhelmed in the sixth century, and formed what is now Cardigan Bay.

The Great Orme had been a centre of pagan worship and the present church is believed to

stand on the same site as Tudno established his hermitage.

It is interesting to note that June 6, the date of Tudno's festival, used to be the day on which the young men of Llandudno performed their 'interludes' on a large boulder nearby.

FRED KAY.

# Multum in Parvo ~or much in little

❖ Miss MARGUERITA FOWLER has now succeeded Mrs. JANE TWINCH as General Secretary of Toc H Women's Association.

❖ H.E. the Governor-General, Field-Marshal Sir WILLIAM SLIM, has consented to become Patron of Toc H Australia.

❖ Among those who have been attending the Assembly of the World Council of Churches at Evanston, U.S.A., were R. D. PAUL and ALAN PATON, the Hon. Commissioners of Toc H in India and South Africa respectively.

❖ E. R. (BOB) PRESTON, who was on the War Services Staff in 1944-46, has been appointed Warden of Talbot House, Singapore, and Malayan Secretary.

❖ IAIN FRASER has moved from Cumberland to the southern border of Westmorland—Postal address: 4 Coles Drive, Arnside, *via* Carnforth, Lancs.

❖ Copies of "SOMETHING TO BITE ON" (the Report of the Forward Committee) have been distributed to all Central Councillors, members of Area Executives and District and Branch Chairmen. (Additional copies are available at 6d. each, 5s. a dozen, post free.) The same applies to "AGE AND YOU", a leaflet written by Charles Norman (2d. each, 1s. 6d. a dozen, post free).

❖ Forthcoming Area events include: MANCHESTER Area Rally on September 11, YORKSHIRE Conference at Cottingham on September 25-26, EAST ANGLIAN Conference at Overstrand and SOUTH-WESTERN Conference at Westward Ho! on October 2-3, NOTTS & DERBY Conference at Matlock on October 9-10, and OXFORD & THAMES VALLEY Festival at Abingdon on October 16.

❖ THE WORLD CHAIN OF LIGHT will be observed from 9 p.m. on Saturday, December 11, to 9 p.m. on Sunday, December 12.

❖ The next TOC H FESTIVAL will be held in London on April 23-24, 1955.

# Income from Toc H Areas

## for the nine months ended July 31, 1954

1953 £	Area	Members: No.	Av. per Member.	Total £	From Member- ship £	From Builders, Donors, etc.—£
198	East Yorks	238	18/8	258	221	37
771	Manchester	810	17/10	966	721	245
506	South London	461	17/1	449	394	55
611	Kent	806	16/8	817	670	147
597	North London	370	16/8	420	309	111
270	Surrey	277	15/6	319	215	104
712	West Midlands	997	15/4	1,156	790	366
1,015	East Midlands	1,040	15/1	1,039	784	255
487	East London	534	12/1	393	322	71
343	Sussex	448	11/10	383	266	117
524	West London	511	11/8	498	297	201
588	Notts & Derby	548	11/8	585	319	266
466	Northern	750	11/7	528	434	94
295	N. Western	409	11/7	313	236	77
367	Oxford & T. V.	314	11/6	360	180	180
609	Western	846	11/1	633	470	163
436	West Yorks.	843	10/2	759	531	228
835	South Western	1,671	10/-	1,021	840	181
445	Beds. & Herts.	514	10/-	438	258	180
560	East Anglia	833	10/-	561	410	151
581	Southern	941	9/10	590	462	128
420	S. E. London	466	8/8	252	201	51
92	Marches	282	7/10	119	109	10
499	Wales	1,261	7/8	547	480	67
662	Scotland	818	7/-	1,047	289	758
263	Lincs.	730	6/1	390	221	169
23	Ireland	99	5/10	36	29	7
244	Lakeland	434	5/2	172	118	54
<u>£13,419</u>		<u>18,251</u>		<u>£15,049</u>	<u>£10,576</u>	<u>£4,473</u>

- NOTES: 1. Tax recoverable for 1953/54 is not included in these figures.
2. Number of Members shown as at December 31, 1953.
3. Five July 1954 Area Cash Returns not received on date of compilation of the above figures.

# *Far Cry* *Overseas Notes and News*

## AMBASSADORS AT LARGE

**I**N RECENT MONTHS two great friends of Toc H have made business visits overseas, the Reverend F. W. Hilborne (Deputy Chaplain General) to West Africa, and Sir Harry Batterbee to New Zealand. They have both made time to meet Toc H and to carry news and encouragement to other segments of the family circle.

Each has given us a short account of his visit, which we gladly share with all other interested members.

### IN LAGOS

It has recently been my good fortune to visit West Africa, and one of the most pleasant recollections with which I have returned is that of my meeting with Toc H friends in Lagos.

Actually my visit was in the course of military duty, but word having gone forth from Francis Street that a member of the Services' Team was coming, Toc H gave me the sort of welcome that the Army would have prepared for the Chief of the Imperial General Staff!

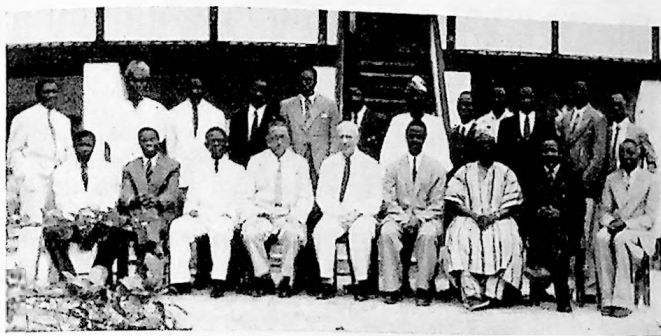
It all started with a Reception Committee—complete with official photographer—at the airport. After the manner of its kind the aircraft was several hours late, but the Reception Committee was still there! It consisted of Abraham Ordia, the indefatigable secretary of the Branch, and another cheery African who delighted to confuse me by his disconcerting habit of alternating his dress between European gents' suiting and what appeared to me to be the magnificent robes of an African emir. These two gave me a welcome that set the key-note for the whole of my visit to Lagos.

It was a brief visit but it included a tea-party in the garden of Abraham Ordia's house, at which I had the privilege of meeting most of the Branch members and their wives—in addition to a number of visitors.

Apart from Sidney Berman, whose loyalty and enthusiasm supply the backbone of this Branch, the membership is



almost entirely African—drawn from the professional and commercial sections of the community I think. This seemed to me a great pity, but Archbishop Vining, a good friend of Toc H who has spent many years in Lagos, makes light of it;



LAGOS BRANCH MEETING.

*Sitting in the centre, left to right, are SIDNEY BERMAN (Chairman), PADRE HILBORNE and ABRAHAM ORDIA (Secretary).*

he says that relations generally between African and European are so good that the question of race is irrelevant. This may be so, but I still think Toc H affords a splendid opportunity for closer fellowship with these very likeable African young men, particularly for Service personnel whose stay in the country is of limited duration. At any rate, I personally regard my contact with Toc H as one of the high spots in my West African tour and I am grateful to Headquarters for the introductions it gave me. F.W.H.

### IN NEW ZEALAND

On my arrival in New Zealand at the end of January I was welcomed on behalf of Toc H by their energetic Secretary, Jack Davies, and Bardy Olphert.

On February 4, I was present at a well-attended evening meeting of the Wellington Branch at which I received a very warm welcome from all the members. I conveyed to them the good wishes of Tubby about whom (and members of Toc H in this country) everyone made very kind enquiries, and in turn I was asked to convey their affectionate greetings to all at home. In my address I gave information about the activities of Toc H at home and in other lands. I learned

that Toc H in New Zealand was specialising in prison work; looking after the welfare of prisoners and trying to give a helping hand when they came out of prison.

On March 8, I met the members of Toc H at Christchurch and again received a warm welcome at a well-attended meeting. I spoke very much on the same lines as I had spoken at Wellington. While emphasising the importance of finding the right big job to undertake, I spoke of the value also of the small job, saying that Toc H stood for the small neighbourly acts of help and kindness to everyone in need: wherever it was known that Toc H could be relied upon to give help in small ways, whenever such help was needed, there it was my experience that Toc H flourishes.

I have come back with the feeling that Toc H is doing good and useful work in New Zealand and is fortunate in possessing enthusiastic members but that, as in other parts of the world, more young helpers are required. H.B.

### AS THE SPIRIT MOVETH

A short time ago there was sad news from Rio de Janeiro, our only group in Brazil. Edgar Cabot had written to say that he and several members were being transferred elsewhere, and that since the group in any case was small this would add greatly to its difficulties.

This situation is of course typical, for in many parts overseas the existence of Toc H depends entirely upon the chance movements of keen members about the world.

Therefore it seemed to be all part of the same pattern of Toc H life that the next mail from Brazil should bring a letter from Roy Savill, a member of Sevenoaks, who had arrived in São Paulo a few weeks previously. This is what he wrote:

I enclose a short report from my paper here which shows more or less what happened at our first meeting to revive Toc H in São Paulo. We got away to a very promising start.

The first step was a link between Padre Townsend (once of Oxford and Buenos Aires) and myself quite accidentally, and one of the first things I asked was "Is there Toc H in São Paulo?" Padre said that there was before the war, and as one who had been active in Buenos Aires Toc H he was only too pleased to meet someone who was prepared to help push the boat out again. He contacted Albert Battersby (formerly of Morro Velho) and asked him to come to the first meeting, which I announced in the paper. This led to a 'phone call from one Frank Hampshire, a stalwart of the pre-war group here, who had some of the original minute books. We four were the people with

Toc H associations, and there were four others at the first meeting who were making its acquaintance for the first time. And they seemed duly impressed. Since then, too, quite a number of people have approached me and expressed interest, and I feel that we have all the makings of a really active group.

At this first meeting Canon Townsend spoke of the origins and aims of Toc H, Albert Battersby described how a Branch organised itself and functioned in colony life, and Roy Savill gave an account of Toc H in England. So the spirit moves, members themselves becoming its willing bearers. G.M.

### SINGAPORE REINFORCEMENTS

Amongst the latest staff announcements is one which will be welcomed everywhere in Toc H. It is the appointment of E. R. Preston to be the first full-time Warden of the house in Singapore. 'Bob' Preston sailed on August 20 and expects to be away for three years. He has previous experience of Singapore and the Cameron Highlands, having served in the Peninsula in 1945 as a member of Toc H War Services staff, following two years in clubs and leave centres in the Arakan (India). From Malaya he returned to Calcutta and was for two years Secretary of the largest Y.M.C.A. branch and hostel in that city. Leaving India in 1949, he joined the Church Army in work with B.A.O.R. in Germany. From this appointment he has been most generously released by the Church Army.

Behind his appointment lies some recent Toc H history in the Far East, where Hong Kong and Singapore have for some years been the only strongholds of the Movement. The closing of the house in Hong Kong, has given a new strategic importance to Singapore where the house at 11 Scotts Road, under a succession of Hon. Wardens loyally supported by a membership which has never been large in numbers, has done most valuable work. The setback in Hong Kong was unavoidable but the need of reinforcements for willing and over-burdened hands in Singapore must be met if the work of the house and the strength of its influence are to continue.

In addition to becoming Warden of the Singapore house and assisting the Branch, Bob will act as Area Secretary for Malaya, where there are possibilities of new units starting and of Asian Christians becoming interested. He carries with him to Malaya the good wishes of us all. W.R.E.

# The Elder Brethren

**BRIGGS.**—On July 7, James Albert Briggs, aged 72, a member of Darlington Branch. Elected 5.7.'51.

**CLAMP.**—On July 6, John Clamp, aged 55, a member of Anstey Branch. Elected 24.4.'33.

**CLEMENT.**—On July 7, Thomas Clement, ('Jock'), aged 87, a member of Gravesend Branch. Elected 23.5.'46.

**DAVIES.**—On May 6, Arthur Davies, aged 57, a member of Newport (Mon.) Branch. Elected 17.9.'28.

**DENT.**—On June 30, Walter Hutton Dent, aged 83, a member of Teignmouth Branch. Elected 21.3.'33.

**EAGAR.**—On July 21, Captain the Rev. Alexander Eveleigh Agathos Eagar, R.N. retd., aged 63, formerly of Coleorton Branch; Toc H War Services staff, 1943-46. Elected 13.8.'42.

**EVANS.**—On April 16, Thomas William Evans, aged 51, a member of Acklam Branch. Elected 24.2.'49.

**GILBERT.**—On May 26, George Venton Gilbert, aged 63, a member of Totnes Branch. Elected 7.5.'45.

**HARDY.**—On June 23, George Francis Hardy, M.C., ('Doc'), a member of Central General Branch, formerly of Wimbledon and Mark II Branch. Elected 1.1.'21.

**HASLER.**—On July 9, Forrest Howard Hasler, aged 67, a member of Hawkhurst Branch. Elected 12.11.'29.

**HAWKINS.**—On July 1, Sidney Owen Hawkins, aged 65, a member of Cheltenham Branch. Elected 8.9.'30.

**HEDLEY.**—On June 5, James Hedley, aged 80, a member of Newbiggin-by-Sea Branch. Elected 21.9.'53.

**HIXON.**—On June 26, William Reid Hixon, aged 65, a member of Holywood Branch, Co. Down, N. Ireland. Elected 10.1.'51.

**HOOPER.**—On July 6, H. Ross Hooper, O.B.E., aged 84, a member of Chippenham Branch. Elected 14.12.'35.

**HOWES.**—On April 6, Thomas John Howes ('Little Tom'), aged 55, a founder member of Sprowston Branch. Elected 29.3.'47.

**JENKINS.**—On March 16, David Jenkins, aged 77, a member of Conssett Branch. Elected 13.2.'41.

**KEY.**—On June 11, John H. Key ('Pop'), aged 73, a member of Long Eaton Branch. Elected 3.6.'49.

**KNIGHTS.**—On April 29, William T. Knights, aged 73, a member of Wellingborough Branch. Elected 4.8.'31.

**LEE.**—On July 6, Alderman Leon George Harold Lee, aged 72, Chairman of the newly formed group at Raunds. Elected 16.5.'54.

**MILNER.**—On July 1, Henry Milner ('Pop'), aged 83, a member of Wembley & Preston Branch. Elected 7.10.'46.

**NYE.**—On May 12, Frederick Charles Nye ('Bill'), aged 72, a member of Harpenden Branch. Elected 1.5.'29.

**PAGE.**—On July 5, Harold Frederick Page, aged 64, a member of Sevenoaks Branch. Elected 7.1.'28.

**PARRY.**—On July 15, following an emergency operation, John Probert Parry, aged 23, a member of Mark VII Branch. Elected 12.12.'52.

**REID.**—On July 21, while on holiday in Britain, Major Horace E. Reid, a founder member of Kingston (Jamaica) Branch. Elected 16.7.'31.

**SCOTT.**—On June 2, Thomas Scott, aged 73, a former member of Middlesbrough Branch. Elected 1.12.'36.

**SHARMAN.**—On June 12, Herbert James Sharman, aged 81, a member of Bardney Branch. Elected 1.5.'47.

**STOKES.**—On July 30, the result of an accident, Edward Harold Stokes, aged 50, a member of Kingsteignton Branch. Elected 6.5.'47.

**TAYSON.**—On June 12, Robert John Tayson, aged 72, a member of Broadway (Worcs.) Branch. Elected 21.3.'50.

**TITCOMBE.**—On June 22, Sydney Richard Titcombe, aged 83, a member of Ensworth Branch. Elected 17.6.'41.

**WEBB.**—On July 1, Edward Henry Charles Webb, aged 56, a founder member of Pickhurst Green Branch. Elected 18.1.'39.

**WESTBROOK.**—In a motor accident in May, George James Westbrook, aged 39. Elected a member of Valparaiso Branch 1939. Toc H War Services staff—India and Burma, 1944-6. Awarded M.B.E. for Toc H Services work in Burma.

## Holiday Camp

*This is the story of an unusual holiday camp, held this year, for physically handicapped people prevented from taking a normal holiday. The writer, who is Jobmaster of King's Lynn Branch, spent a week of his holiday in helping to ensure the success of the venture.*

**T**HERE'S NOTHING UNUSUAL about holiday crowds arriving at railway and coach stations serving Gorleston-on-Sea. Many thousands arrive during the holiday season and it is just a commonplace to the local residents. But on Saturday, May 29 the commonplace changed into the unusual, for this was the day when some 280 physically handicapped folk arrived for a week's stay at the local Holiday Camp. Many residents paused to watch these holiday makers whose incapacities often called for the assistance of two, and even three, helpers to move them from train or coach to chair, chair to car and thence to the Camp on the cliffs. This was a spectacle which could not be accepted with the usual indifference, this was an experience which caused many an onlooker to offer their services as helpers at the Camp as the week progressed.

Following the success of the first pilot camp in 1953, the Norfolk Voluntary Association for the Welfare of the Physically Handicapped decided to repeat the experiment for a second year. The fears of not receiving enough applications soon turned to fears of receiving too many. 340 enquiries were received for the 300 places, though various circumstances reduced those actually taking up residence to 280.

It was the aim of the Association to provide a holiday for those people who had been physically unable or psychologically unwilling to participate in a normal holiday scheme. As far as possible the programme was the same as arranged by the camp management throughout the holiday season, and a variety of entertainment was enjoyed every night of

the week. Special services were held on the Sunday and through the kindness of some Gorleston residents it was possible to arrange coach trips round the Broads, magnificent help being given by ten firemen who assisted in loading and unloading the coaches before they had to make a hurried departure to play their more normal rôle of fire fighters.

The Handicapped were appreciative of the smallest help given them, being loud in their praises of the accommodation



*Some of the campers at Gorleston Holiday Camp.*

and food provided and of everything done to make this an outstanding memory in what must sometimes be an unexciting life. The Association is deeply indebted to the numerous voluntary helpers who came forward to assist in the menial tasks of lifting, pushing, washing, dressing and, in some cases, feeding these people unable to help themselves. The two local Toc H Branches played a valuable part, for it was largely through their efforts that many more folk came forward to take campers for drives or to give help at all times of the day.

A colour film, recording the many events of the Camp throughout the week, was made and will be shown, not only in the Camp itself during the season, but to be available for showing throughout the country with the object of raising funds for future camps and to stimulate interest in the welfare of the physically handicapped everywhere.

What has all this to do with Toc H? There is a need for

clubs for handicapped people all over the country. One single holiday week does not really meet their need, what of the long winter months? Here is an opportunity for Toc H Branches to find out what is being done locally. Toc H need not necessarily run the clubs, but we ought to get committees formed where nothing is being done and develop as the needs become clearer. Local Authorities are charged under the National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 29, to implement schemes for the physically handicapped. They can encourage by grants the voluntary organisations already running or wishing to set up clubs. There is also a booklet issued by the British Council for Rehabilitation, price 6d., called "A Blueprint for the Future" which is a great help to those interested in the welfare of the handicapped, or your local Council of Social Service can put you in touch with the Norfolk C.S.S. under whose auspices the work develops through clubs and holiday camp in East Anglia.

During the holiday camp, many enquiries were made regarding the chances of getting clubs for handicapped people started in towns and areas all over the country and I promised to pass on these requests. What is your answer?

A. KEITH GOLDSWORTHY.

## *Pearls of Price*

IT IS SAID in the best circles that John Durham has not been to bed for six months. He has done his day's work for a day's pay, and then settled down at a desk in Francis Street poring, night after night, over the files of Toc H. He probably thought the time had come to remind the British public of the early history and the present-day ideals of our Family. A stout fellow John; he would have been stouter physically if he had gone to bed occasionally and fed at the proper times. There is but one fault in the result of his nocturnal exercises probably due to fatigue. This book deserves a better name than *Here and There*.<sup>\*</sup> "Pearls of Price" would do or "Philosophy of a Family" or, dare we say, "Tubby's White-headed Boy"? But call it what he will the book must be read by every member, be discussed in every

<sup>\*</sup> *Here and There*, A Toc H Anthology, compiled by John Durham.

Mark and be digested by every potentate and prelate in the Society.

There is subtlety in the tome. The author probably said to himself that an honest to goodness history of Toc H was not to the taste of the majority, so he sugared the pill with anecdotes and jokes from our publications. To be sure we are carried back to Pop. and its Upper Room, to Guildhall in London and the granting of the Royal Charter, to the origin of 'Light' and the tragedy of the missing lamps when representatives of the first Women's Branches came for recognition, and to the Marks and all they meant in the early days and still mean.

Toc H, we are told exists partly that men may find God in each other, to teach men that tolerance is not inconsistent with conviction, and that, in the Family, rank can be abandoned without the loss of dignity. In a word Toc H is a charitable society in the most lofty and uncommercial sense. It follows therefore that the passages quoted in John's anthology breathe the spirit of goodwill. No one is slanged, no murmur of pessimism emerges; while God is in the Movement no one dare be dismayed. But, with the subtlety we have already noticed, there are manifold hints as to how to run a meeting and treat a guest speaker, how to wreck a Branch, persecute the secretary, and welcome a stranger. On the face of it there is no active propaganda in Toc H but the propagation of charity. But certain underlying ideals assert themselves in these pages. There is such a thing we are led to guess as religious sloth and spiritual death. Jesus made a pulpit of a boat at the risk of shocking some of the traditionalists. He was impeded in His work by some who clung to a dead tradition, and there is more than a hint that the cause of religion suffers because some men come to idolise outworn methods. Bound up with this is the warning "All your life you can be asleep".

Sandwiched in between these shafts of truth and light there are countless human touches which add illumination. There is the story of the commanding officer who would not allow a private to make way for him when both were approaching the altar. The sensitive reader will feel deeply moved when he reads of the prayer of an unknown visitor to the Upper Room. "Pray very earnestly for me that I may have strength to do what is right and to make an effort to help others, not



so much by what I say but by my whole life. I have wandered away very far, but I want to put things right and the prayers of Talbot House will mean much to me."

More pathetic still is the story of Alec Paterson's visit to a dying leper on Devil's Island. Alec had to kneel in order to hear the words of a stricken brother. As he rose from his knees the leper stretched out his disfigured hand. "For a moment" said Alec, "I shrank back. Then I said to myself, 'If you cannot shake hands on this Good Friday with a dying leper how can you hold out your hands on Easter morning to receive the Bread of Life?'"

Of humour there is a good deal. Toc H tells its highbrows "The more intelligent you are the more essential it is that you should be an ass three times a day". The best story perhaps is of the girl Rhoda who, it will be remembered, received blessed Peter at the home of John Mark after the apostle's release from prison. Some years afterwards when Peter had been exalted to the guardianship of the Golden Gates Rhoda presented herself. Peter was a little 'sticky' and would not melt until Rhoda cried,

*"If you've of gratitude a spark, of sanctity an odour,  
Look! I was maid to Mrs. Mark! I let you in! I'm Rhoda!"*

This is a great book. It was worth John's self-sacrifice and his nightly vigil. The padres will use it for their sermons. The big-wigs of the Family will look upon it as a refresher course. Many another will feel that it brings a corner of heaven into their lives and will want to make it known.

T. P. STEVENS.



*Where there's cooking  
there's*



## *Service in Song*

I WONDER how many Toc H members, past and present, can recall the St. Stephen's Lunch Club, Westminster. It was here that, during the fateful years of North Africa, Salerno and the Normandy campaign, many men of Toc H, and others, discussed affairs of the day while the allied armies were blazing a path to final victory. Men in and out of uniform rubbed shoulders and raised their voices in the popular choruses of the day, and in 'Rogerum'! Although few were aware of the fact at the time, this was also to be the cradle of a re-formed Toc H Male Voice Choir. The pre-war choir of some hundred and fifty voices, whose sole purpose it was to perform at Festivals and other Toc H functions, had ceased to be.

The new choir, like so many bodies, started from a small beginning. A notice was posted in the Club calling for those interested in the formation of a body of singers. Amongst the first forward were two members of the War Office staff, Reg Everett and Eddie Harwood.

From the outset there were rehearsal difficulties and the small band suffered many vicissitudes. Commencing at Mark II under the leadership of the then warden, Roger Pemberton, the songsters spent a roving life and found temporary roots at St. Stephen's Club, Greek Street, and back in the sub-arctic basement gymnasium of Mark II before finding a final haven on Tower Hill at 42 Trinity Square.

It was a natural process that as the choir expanded a constitution should be drawn up, and this was done in the name of the Toc H Male Voice Choir. From the beginning the choir existed to pursue a path of service in the highest traditions of the Family, by bringing joy and happiness to those who are often left without. In the choir's ranks are many active Branch members including a Central Councillor and Area Chairman.

Variety Concerts, containing a generous measure of comedy items, are given every second week throughout the year in addition to weekly rehearsals. Hospitals, old folks' homes and clubs, blind and cripples' clubs, prisons etc. are



*A section of the Toc H Male Voice Choir at a hospital concert.*

all catered for. Over the last four years carolling efforts at Victoria Station have realised £500 on behalf of the National Children's Homes. The choir has also appeared on several occasions at the Royal Albert Hall, and once took part in the B.B.C. broadcast programme 'Sunday Half-Hour'. Audiences have varied from over five hundred 'residents' at Pentonville and Brixton prisons to half-a-dozen old folk on a particularly wet and windy day in North London. It is typical that the latter received the full two hour programme.

The secret, if any, of the choir's success is the wonderful sense of fellowship which moulds choir and audience into one. It is hard to say which enjoys the fun most. Why are many members willing to devote some two hundred and fifty hours a year and travel over four hundred miles in this cause? Because they believe with all their hearts in what they are doing.

To maintain a programme which is booked up to nine months ahead new members are always urgently required. An ability to read music is not essential, and all that is required is that a man can sing reasonably well and in tune; rehearsals, which take place every Monday evening at '42', will do the rest.

J. NEILLY.

## Festival at Hereford

CASTLE GREEN was an excellent choice of site for the West Midlands Area Festival held at Hereford on June 26 and with the English summer behaving itself, the open-air nature of the event was a very pleasant feature. The Mayor of Hereford welcomed the visitors to his ancient and lovely town and after the inevitable speeches (kept delightfully short!) by Toc H staff men, ably introduced by Lane Walker of Presteigne Branch, the afternoon's programme really got under weigh with an exemplary display of marching—led by their own band—by the Boys' Regiment, Royal Artillery, in period costume. This provided as much enjoyment to the adults as it did for the kiddies for, let it be remembered, this was a Family Gathering and some features of the programme were expressly designed to appeal to the youngsters. The Marionette show which followed obviously had this idea in view. Meanwhile most of the five hundred Toc H members and their friends were able to make good use of the freedom from a too highly organised programme by mixing and chatting one with another. A demonstration of square dancing in which the audience were invited to join, brought the afternoon to a close.

After tea came the Festival Service in the Cathedral conducted by the Dean, the Very Rev. W. Hedley Burrows, himself a General Member of Toc H. The happy and sincere note of welcome struck by the Dean, followed by the Address by the Chaplain of Rugby School, the Rev. O. R. Fulljames, all combined to make the Service a truly memorable and inspiring one.

To the Area Executive then, Hereford Branch and particularly W. R. Mollison who acted as Festival Secretary, not forgetting all the other 'back-room boys', we offer our warm congratulations for successfully carrying through a far from easy job.

While the Festival itself was the *pièce de résistance*, those who had to travel any distance to reach it will agree that the 'getting there and the coming back' added considerably to

the delight of the occasion. Out on the spree (and why not?) in the company of a crowd of Toc H fellows and girls who really believed in gallant and high hearted happiness has to be experienced to be believed. So roll on April, 1955, and the National Festival in London—we'll be there!

A. ERIC TIMS.

## *Middlesbrough Guest-night*

THE MEETING we had planned for the Spring took place on April 3 when about 120 Builders and Members of Toc H and Toc H Women's Association brought along over 200 friends. Our aim was to gain new friends for the Movement and if possible interest some of them in membership and others in becoming Builders.

There are three Branches of Toc H in the town of Middlesbrough (Middlesbrough, Acklam and Grove Hill) and two Branches of Toc H Women's Association (Middlesbrough and Acklam) and each member was asked to invite two potential members or Builders. Within the Tees Side District half a dozen members of the West Hartlepool, Eston, Grange-town, Stockton, Norton and Ormesby Branches of Toc H and of the Stockton, Norton and two Hartlepoons Branches of the Women's Association were each asked to bring one guest.

The programme for the Guest-night contained items of serious interest and down-to-earth comedy for, as the Chairman, Bill Scarlett, explained, Toc H is for all kinds of people and whilst we have our serious moments we try to be a happy family all of the time. Friends of Toc H, Gordon Atkinson, Kathleen Wilson, Jack Whaley, Dorothy Baker and Colin Beeforth gave us a number of songs throughout the evening whilst one of our members, Dick Abbot, entertained us with humorous monologues.

'Grove Hill' was recognised as a Branch of Toc H in December, 1953, and this was a suitable occasion for Charles V. Young, the Northern Area Secretary, to hand over the new Lamp to Joe Sill, in whose front room the Branch first started. Tubby, our principal speaker, led us in the Ceremony of Light.

The audience, both members and friends alike, were keenly interested in Tubby's story or in the words of the headlines in the local newspaper, "Mr. Toc H tells how it all began". Tubby toured the world for us showing Toc H really in action and then gave an explanation as to how our guests could help the Movement by becoming members or Builders, which evidently stirred them for we have had many enquiries about membership and already we have received some completed Builders' forms. Anyone interested in any section of the work was asked to complete a slip with their name and address; this now gives our members the opportunity of following up our contacts to ensure that we maintain their interest.

After an interval, we heard of the things which Toc H is doing in Middlesbrough and we then showed that Toc H could also play. A few members gave a series of lightning sketches which, although certainly not highbrow, gave the audience twenty minutes of hilarious fun. The Guest-night closed with a member of the new Grove Hill Branch, Lionel Birkett, leading us in Homegoing Prayers.

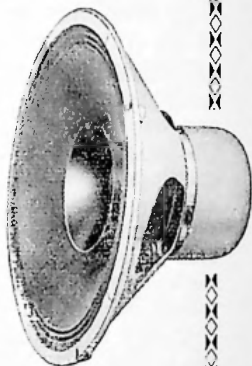
JIM BRASS.

## ***High-Fidelity* SOUND REPRODUCTION**

### **GOODMANS INDUSTRIES LTD.**

*have the most comprehensive range of  
High Fidelity and High Quality  
Loudspeakers in Great Britain.*

*Selected from this range is shown the  
**AXIOM 150 MARK II** — a Wide Range  
twin diaphragm 15-watt Reproducer £10 5 6*



### **GOODMANS INDUSTRIES LTD.**

**AXIOM WORKS - LANCELOT ROAD - WEMBLEY**

## The Last Tribute

A FRIEND seeks the best for his friend and in seeking gives himself and his substance. Toc H is rich in friends who back thoughts with action and prayers with gifts.

For many years Toc H has been receiving the last tributes which thoughtful friends can pay in this world, and we list with thanksgiving bequests which we have received in recent weeks:—

Horace Brown of Hythe, Kent	£1,500
Gilbert Williams	£500
Miss E. M. Raeburn, for the Seafaring Boys Club	£300
Dr. Langton, for Eastern Canada	£500
and the following promises from members:—	

“Dear Tubby,

As a result of a conversation with Rex whilst on a visit to the Old House at Easter I have left 500 guineas to Toc H, of which £150 is to go to the Old House . . .”

—and part of a telephone conversation—

“ . . . and I wanted to know the correct wording for my Will, but as you were away I’ve taken a chance and I think it will be alright. I’ve left £25 to Toc H and £75 to Toc H and All Hallows Trust . . .”

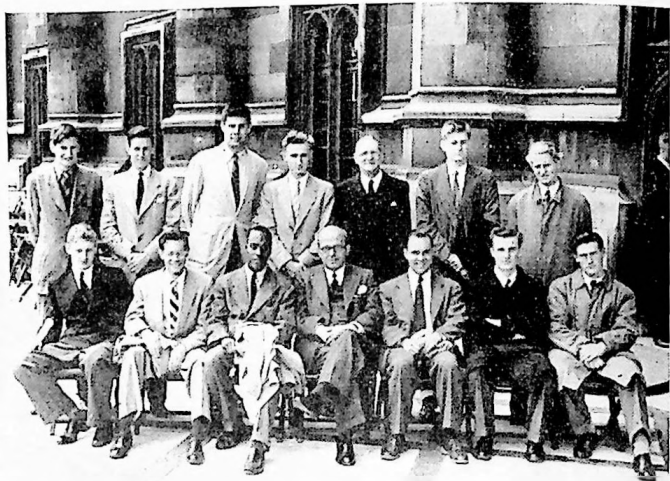
And lastly, a recent announcement in the newspapers that the late Wilfred Wills, who most generously financed our work among Service men between the wars, has made his final gift to Toc H £4,000.

The Central Finance Committee has to consider how best to use these final gifts. In the past they have generally been earmarked for some special purpose needing capital, such as endowments, Marks or housing Staff, and a decision will be made regarding the use of the bequests where instructions have not already been given.

The sums mentioned above happen to be substantial but members have left amounts to Toc H varying from £10 upwards. We should like every member who feels his responsibility for the future welfare of Toc H, and is keenly

aware of the strength which comes from small gifts multiplied many times over, to add a simple codicil to his Will. (*Details of wording can be obtained from the Chief Accountant*). One other point, Post War Credit Certificates, which many of us have forgotten about, can be left as bequests; the Chief Accountant is holding a number of these certificates in safe custody.

JACK HARRISON.



Universal Pictorial Press

### A SCHOOLS WEEK IN TERM TIME

In addition to the regular Annual Schools Week held during the Easter holidays (an account of which appeared in the June JOURNAL) the experiment was tried this year of holding a further week towards the end of the Summer Term when in some schools a good many senior boys have finished their exams and are killing time until the holidays begin. A number of schools expressed approval of this idea and it was possible to get together a small but well-mixed party who carried out, again with the co-operation of the London Marks, a similar programme to that arranged in April. In some of the events the boys were joined by a few of the Winant Volunteers and the photograph (above) shows a few of each party with Cyril Osborne, M.P. on the terrace of the House of Commons.

ALEC CHURCHER.



*The many reports of successful 'outside' events that have reached us clearly show that the vagaries of this year's 'summer' have failed to damp the enthusiasm of the units which planned them. Here is a token selection:*



- ◆ More than 5,000 people attended the ninth annual Gala organised by SOAR VALLEY.
- ◆ MILL HILL celebrated their coming-of-age with a Garden Party attended by nearly 4,000 people.
- ◆ A balloon released from DEAL Fête at 6 p.m., was picked up in Holland the same evening.
- ◆ Miss Eileen Peel, the stage and T.V. star, opened PEMBURY'S Garden Fête.
- ◆ A wild flower competition was a feature of BROUGHTON ASTLEY Gala, while a dog show was included in the Fête organised by LYDNEY.
- ◆ A Garden Party run by MARK VII and BELRA in the grounds of Bedford College, Regents Park, made a profit of £220.
- ◆ An aeroplane flight over the village was one of the prizes at HARTLEY WINTNEY Fête.
- ◆ Throughout August under-privileged Manchester children enjoyed camping holidays at Rhyl organised by GATLEY.
- ◆ A country trip by bus for old folk was undertaken by NEWBIGGIN.
- ◆ NORTHAMPTON took seventy-five invalids on an outing in private cars to Sulgrove.
- ◆ A bunch of sweet-smelling flowers was given to each of the eighty blind guests attending LEATHERHEAD'S Summer Party.
- ◆ HARROW and BRIGHTON combined to give a seaside holiday to seventeen Harrow children.

**350** good reasons why  
you should make this yours



**PRICE**  
**2/6**

*Available from*

350 grand films  
... countless evenings' entertainments. Associated British-Pathé's new 16-mm catalogue is the most comprehensive and exciting they have ever presented. Attractive, colourful, it makes programme selection a joy — and so easy!

**ASSOCIATED BRITISH - PATHE LTD.**

Pathé House, 103-105 Oxford Street, London, W.1

# A Bag of Books

*If unable to obtain any book reviewed in these pages from your local bookseller please contact Toc H Publications Dept. Where the cost of books is more than some members can afford, they can often be obtained through their local Public Library.*

## RACIAL RELATIONS

*The Heart is a Lonely Hunter.* By Carson McCullers. (The Cresset Press. 15s. 0d.).

The Forward Committee has stated that it thinks "that the most important challenges to action by Toc H are in the fields of racial and family relations and the relations between employer and employed".

Many books, good, bad and indifferent, have been written about the race problem. This novel, published some little time ago and written by an American woman is unquestionably among the good and the very good indeed. Discriminating critics in England have described the authoress as the best living American writer. The book impressed me so greatly that I asked permission of the Editor of the JOURNAL to draw attention to it. Words are not minced in this novel, but doubtless the reader will recover from the shock.

Not all the characters are Coloured Folk, which makes the book the more worth-while. There is the white man Singer, a deaf-mute, whose quietness, gentleness and understanding endear him to his coloured neighbours. There is Mick, a girl of nearly fourteen, coping adequately with the younger children and cherishing within herself a passionate love of the music of the great composers and an unquenchable determination to become a pianist. Her character is drawn with the utmost sympathy and understanding. Of the coloured characters the outstanding is Doctor Copeland, whose attitude to life can be partly gauged from the fact that he named one of his sons Karl Marx and his daughter Portia. He is devoted to his own people with a devotion bred of hatred of ignorance, injustice and white folk other than the deaf-mute.

I have no intention of trying to describe what happens; but let me quote one incident. Portia's grandfather, an old man of nearly eighty, has come to visit his children and grandchildren. Misfortune has fallen upon the family. Sitting in a room in Portia's home, the grandfather asks her to read from the Bible. When she has finished, the old man speaks. "Many a day when I been ploughing or working." Grand-papa said slowly, "I done thought and reasoned about the time when Jesus going to descend again to this earth. 'Cause I done always wanted it so much it seem to me like it will be while I am living. I done studied about it many a time. And this here the way I done planned it. I reason I will get to stand before Jesus with all my childrens and grandchildren and great grandchildren and kinfolks and friends and I say to him, 'Jesus Christ, us is all sad coloured peoples'. And then He will place His holy hand upon our heads and straightway us will be white as cotton. That the plan and reasoning that been in my heart a many and a many a time".

It is a moving and a compassionate book.

JOHN DURHAM.

## DESTINATION POPERINGHE

*In Flanders Fields.* A little companion for the visitor to Poperinghe and Ypres, compiled by Barclay Baron (Toc H 1s. 3d.).

There is no doubt about it, what we have lacked at the Old House during the last couple of years is something in the nature of a simple guide book, not only of the house itself but also of the neighbourhood.

Now Barkis has produced this most readable and well illustrated small book complete with a useful sketch map covering the Ypres Salient. It will be welcomed by all who have an affection for Talbot House and would value a vivid reminder. And those who go over for the first time will be glad to read it in advance.

GEOFF MARTIN.

## CHRISTMAS CARDS AND DIARIES

These are at present in production and will be placed on sale as early as possible in October. Full details will be given in next month's JOURNAL.

# Open Hastings Letters to The Editor

*The Editor welcomes letters on all matters concerning Toc H. For reasons of space the right is reserved to shorten letters received, but every effort is made to print a representative selection.*

## Active Service

IT occasionally happens that Branch members are consulted on the question of vocation by young men and women anxious to devote their lives to full-time service of God and their neighbours. May I suggest that when such requests are made, the Church Army be kept in mind?

The Church Army is a society of the Church of England engaged in evangelistic and social work throughout the country. For suitable young men and women who are communicant members of the Church of England there are vacancies for free training in the Training College. After a two-year course in theology, evangelistic method and related subjects, the students are Commissioned as Officers of the Church Army and posted to spheres of work in which their gifts may be most used. During vacations the students have the chance to see something of the varied activities of the Society by working under experienced senior officers in Church Army centres.

The opportunities for service range from evangelistic work in New Teams, Parishes and on

Mission Caravans, to social evangelistic work in any of the hundred or so Homes, Hostels and Youth Centres run by Church Army.

For the young man or woman who feels a vocation to full-time Christian work, the Church Army may be the means through which that vocation could be fulfilled.

NEIL L. PRITCHARD.

*Deputy Chief Secretary  
of the Church Army.*

*55, Bryanston Street,  
London, W.1.*

## The H Bomb

THE TITLE of the Report of the Forward Committee. *Something to Bite On*, no less than the credentials of the committee members, led me to chew it cautiously lest I should damage my teeth. I need not have worried. It is as innocuous as chewing gum. It seems as if the committee have deliberately avoided putting in the one solid fact which pre-occupies all minds today. It has probably been omitted because they realise that the destructive power of this fact — the H Bomb — is such that

even discussion is capable of integrating the whole Toc H Movement. Nevertheless if Toc H is to continue to have any meaning it must be discussed, until every member knows his own mind clearly.

Here is something to bite on—

- (1) The nation which is the first to use the H Bomb will be able to dictate terms to the sorry remnant of humanity which is left.
- (2) To declare war, and so give notice, will result in the declarer becoming an instant victim.
- (3) For any nation to announce that it will not use this decisive weapon, whilst continuing preparations for war (defensive or otherwise) is futile.

Now Toc H, get your teeth into it.

No. 6197.

Scarborough Branch.

## Young Blood

**N**O DOUBT Keith Woods has a very good claim but his election a fortnight after his sixteenth birthday must be run very close by our own David Houghton with eleven days.

Anyone suggesting Toc H is getting an Old Man's Association could well study this impressive list of youngsters.

	16th Birthday	Elected
Brian Hayes	5.3.'52	24.11.'52
Bobbie Prescott	23.3.'52	27.8.'52
David Loveden	13.9.'53	31.11.'53
David Houghton	7.11.'53	18.11.'53

David Peard, sixteen in October this year, has already thirteen months' probation, and is our Librarian too.

Bobbie Prescott left us only a few weeks ago for service in the R.A.F. as did Derick Howes who was with us for two years and is still thinking about membership.

BOB TURNER.

Whitleigh Branch, Plymouth.

## 'Gen'

**M**AY, I, through the JOURNAL, thank all those kind people who have so kindly sent letters of condolence to Mrs. 'Gen' and Family.

I am hoping in time to be able to answer these letters but there are so many that it will take some considerable time.

On Mrs. 'Gen's' behalf then. Thank you all so very much.

ARTHUR E. PETTIFER.

Tottenham, N.17.

*Here is the message sent from H.M. Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother to Mrs. Pettifer.*



CLARENCE HOUSE

W. S.

28th Jan. 1954

Dear Mrs. Pettifer,

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother has heard, with much regret, of the death of your husband. I am constrained by her Majesty to send you her deep sympathy, and to say how well she understands your feelings at this sad time.

Mr. Pettifer, as senior Vice-President of Toc H, will be greatly missed, but never forgotten by those who were fortunate enough to have known him.

Yours sincerely,

*Queen Elizabeth*  
Lady-in-Waiting

Mrs. Pettifer.

## Football Broadcasts

*A number of readers have written expressing concern at a note that recently appeared in the national Press stating that increased charges were to be levied for the use of land-lines from football grounds to the hospitals. We wrote to the Postmaster General asking for information on the reasons for the increases and here is the reply received:*

WITH reference to your letter of the 10th August about the increase in rental charges for telephone lines used to relay sports commentaries to hospitals, I should first like to say that we fully realise the pleasure which these commentaries bring to hospital patients. We do not like having to increase our charges for the lines, but in the interests of the general body of telephone

renters we must make our charges cover the cost of providing the lines.

The provision of sports commentary networks is a new development for which we hitherto had no standard method of calculating charges, and they were in some cases being assessed on an *ad hoc* basis which was inappropriate to the nature of the services provided. It was only after a careful study of the arrangements needed to set up the networks satisfactorily, and the costs involved, that the decision to increase the charges was taken.

I should like to assure you that we have kept the rentals as low as possible, and we are only sorry that we are unable to make them any lower.

H. W. BRAY.

*Inland Telecommunications Dept.,  
General Post Office, E.C.1.*

---

## COURSE FOR YOUTH LEADERS

A comprehensive course for voluntary Youth Club Leaders, actual and potential, is being prepared by the National Association of Mixed Clubs and Girls' Clubs.

Designed to cater for a widespread need, the course is divided into three parts; practical work, theoretical work and residential week-ends. In the practical work, students will be expected to broaden their club experience and activities; and in the theoretical work they will learn much of human relations and the social background to Youth Service.

A novel feature of the course is that the theoretical part may be taken by correspondence.

First-class speakers and lecturers will be present at the residential week-ends, and there will be ample opportunity for students to exchange experiences and ideas.

Full details are obtainable from Alec Churcher at Toc H Headquarters.

# HALL'S GUARANTEED ROT-PROOF CEDARWOOD

**KILN DRIED TIMBER**

**MORTICED AND TENONED JOINTS**

**NO PAINTING NEEDED**

**FREE DELIVERY ENGLAND & WALES**



**BUILDINGS FROM 13'6**  
PER MONTH NO DEPOSIT



## REDUCED PRICES

**SHEDS** from

£13.5.0 or 17/- a month

**GREENHOUSES** from

£18.10.0 or 24/- a month

**POULTRY HOUSES**

from £10.10.0 or 13/6 a month

**GARAGES** from

£35.15.0 or 46/- a month

**FREE SUPER CATALOGUE**

**R. H. HALL & CO (KENT) LTD**

**85-92 PADDOCK WOOD • TONBRIDGE • KENT**



*Back after 13 years!*

... still the perfect China flavour  
... still in the pale blue packet  
**ONLY** the name is shortened

Do you recognise your old favourite?  
If not, ask your grocer. He'll be glad  
to tell you—and sell you

**HARDEN'S**  
**"DOC-CHI"**  
**TEA**

*blended by Harden Bros. & Lindsay Ltd., 121 Cannon Street, E.C.4*